MSC MONITOR

Student Newspaper of Mat-Su College

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Molly's Playhouse to Open

On-campus daycare opens this semester

by Amy Menerey

Molly's Playhouse, the campus daycare, will be opening January 16th, 1996, the first day of the Spring semester. The contract for the long-awaited facility has been awarded to Profiles in Excellence. The daycare is licensed to accomodate thirty-four children from 12 months of age to 12 years old. They are accepting Day Care Assistance, as well as children of people in the JOBS program. Although space is limited, there are still some openings left. Enrollment is through the daycare itself, not through Mat-Su College. Hours will be from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Friday, and 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturdays. Call Barbara Gerard at 745-2349, 746-2349, or 745-3369 for more information.

A Dream Realized

The opening of a daycare facility on this campus has been a long-time dream of English Professor Barbara Mishler. When Barbara came to this campus in 1983, she recognized the need for a facility which was easy, convenient, and low cost to students. She had hoped to develop some type of coop situation for the student parents of Mat-Su College. When the new building was built, and the possibility of space for a permanent facility was available, Barbara was there to lobby for it.

There is a small plaque outside the door of Molly's Playhouse. It reads: Molly's Playhouse, Dedicated to Nurturing Children. In Loving Memory of Molly Ann Mishler, April 2, 1972 - September 29, 1974. With tears welling in her eyes and a distant look, Barbara told me of her daughter, Molly, who died of leukemia.

Last summer, when the opening of the Machetanz Building became a reality, upon recommendation by Mat-Su College, Mat-Su College Student Government, the College Advisory Council and Chancellor Gorsuch, the Board of Regents voted unanimously and approvingly to name the daycare after Barbara's daughter.

This issue: Internet Addiction, Blast from the Past

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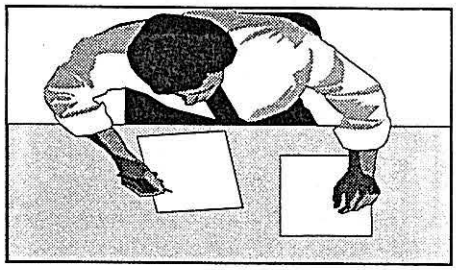
Inauguration Ceremony and Open House

A formal Inauguration Ceremony for Joseph Emmons will take place on January 13th at 2:00 p.m. in the Machetanz Building. The ceremony, presided by Chancellor Gorsuch, will feature several key speakers and honored guests. Following the ceremony will be a reception and open house of the Machetanz Building.

Director Emmons is the sixth director since the college began in 1957. He follows in the footsteps of Leslie Klebesadel, William Tull, Paul Martin, Alvin Okeson and Glenn Massay.

Students are encouraged to attend.



From the Desk of Joseph Emmons

Director of Mat-Su College

Welcome new students, and welcome back to all returning students. Whether you are just starting your college career, or nearing the completion of a degree program, I hope the Spring Semester 1996 provides you with many rewarding experiences. One thing of particular note that will be happening this semester is the opening of the new child care center, Molly's Playhouse. The center, under Barbara Gerard and her staff, promises to provide a much needed service to the college's students and staff.

I am looking forward to this semester with added anticipation, as it will be my first full semester as director of the college. I still have many people to meet and places to discover, which makes this job so interesting. The faculty, staff and I are here to make your experiences at the college as rewarding as possible. Take advantage of what we have to offer, and most of all, remember to have fun.

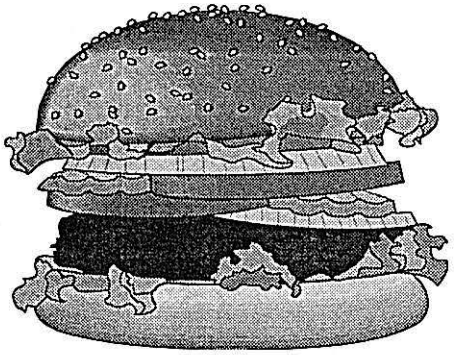
From the Editor's Corner:

The start of a new year, the passing of the old. New beginnings and reflections. For myself, I see the end of a rough year; hard classes, hard choices, health problems, and mental blocks. I see the beginning of a new year, a chance to start over again; new classes, new adventures, new goals, new friends, and a new way to look at life. For Mat-Su College, I see the end of an era; the changing of the guard, moving on, and being missed. I see a new approach; fresh ideas, new policies, a new smile. For the MSC Monitor, I see hurdles leapt, deadlines missed, long hours, and goals met. I look ahead and see hurdles to leap, deadlines to meet, long hours, goals to meet; but most of all, smiles, friendly faces, new ideas and a wonderful sense of accomplishment.

- Amy Menerey

Editor's Note: In reflection of the past I am including in this issue several articles from previous issues of the Monitor; read and enjoy.

Letters to the Editor



Take a bite outta life...

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Guest Columnists	Joseph Emmons
	Patte Sawyer

The Monitor welcomes guest columnists and letters to the editor. Submissions will be printed according to space available, and must include name & phone number for verification. These can be placed in the Monitor box in the cafeteria, dropped in the Student Govt./Monitor office or mailed to the MSC Monitor, P.O. Box 2889, Palmer, AK 99645. The editor reserves the right to edit for length, clarity, grammar, spelling and libel.

Dear Editor,

I want to know why few are willing to give of themselves whether it be time, money or talent unless there is something in it for them. Here at the MSC campus, those who give of their time, for the benefit of the campus as a whole, are made fun of and told we should "get a life" (among other things). Volunteering should be a part of everyone's life, not just at this campus, but in the Valley. There are several needs that anyone could fill. I have been volunteering for the last three years in a number of places and I benefit so much just knowing I have been able to help another. For instance, the elementary schools need parent volunteers and PTA supporters, the VWRC daily needs help in providing their services to the Valley's concerns. At our campus, volunteers want to help students succeed at their goal. To do this takes time, and even money once in awhile. We do have a life and we choose to include this campus as part of it, along with our families, studies, and personal time. People are not just ships sailing alone searching for a shore to dock on. We should support each other's endeavors, not trash them. Get involved, don't just stand back and complain about how everything is done.

Shelia Keyser, Student

Dear Son,

Your paw has a job now. It's the first one he had in 48 years since we've been married. We are a little better off now, because we have so much money we don't know what to do with it.

Paw gets $17.15 every Thursday, so we thought we ought to do something about fixing up the house. We went to sears and roebuck for one of them bathrooms you hear about people having in their houses, it took a right good plumber to put it in shape.

On one side of the bathroom is a great long thing like a pig trough, only you get in and wash all over. On the other side is a little thing they call a sink where you wash your face and hands, but over in the other corner is really something. This thing you put one foot in, wash it clean, then you pull a chain and get fresh water for the other foot.

Two lids come with the thing. We got no use for them in the bathroom, so I'm using one for a bread-dough board, the other lid has a hole in it, so we use it for a frame for grandpa's picture.

Sears and roebuck are real nice people to deal with. They sent us a roll of purty paper with the outfit. We can't write on it, very well, so I'm using it to wrap pa's lunch with.

Take care of yourself

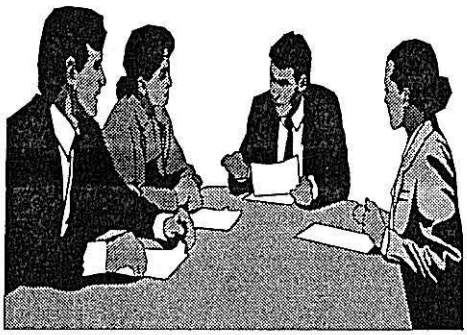
Maw

Reprinted from the MSCC Monitor, April 1981, p.3

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Meeting

The next Student Government meeting will be held on January 19th, at 4:30 p.m. in JKB 108. It's the start of a new semester, come and see what Student Government is all about. Join a committee, get involved, voice your opinion.



Your Student Government
What do they do?

*Hold regular meetings and make the concerns of MSC students known to the Director, the Board of Regents, and legislators.

*Lobby for the students: new building, daycare, new classes, policies, etc.

*Provide social activities for students; promote a friendly atmosphere in which to learn.

*Provide community services.

*Supply food donations to needy students during the Christmas season.

*Provide volunteers for the MSC Commencement reception and flowers, pins, and photos for graduates.

*Contribute to the betterment and growth of MSC by making this campus known and heard throughout the community, the state, and the country.

CLUBBIN' IT

The following clubs are currently in existence. Meeting times vary, contact these people for more information:

Accounting Club - Patty Sikes, 373-1498, currently meeting twice monthly after Student Government meetings on Fridays.

MENC (Music) - Dessa Dickerson, 892-6857 or Stephen Tarr 373-0785

Noonsingers - Jess Baker, 745-2954

Art Club - Carolyn Long, 892-8816

ASHRAE - Larry Larrecou, 338-3936

Contact Michelle, Student Government Secretary, regarding formation of new clubs.

*Are you interested in becoming involved? Find out what it's **really** about. Attend a meeting, join a committee, find out about **your** school.*

Annual Christmas Ball

Attendance to the 1995 Annual Student Government Christmas Ball was low, however, those that did go had a great time. The Ball was held at the Palmer Moose Club on Friday, December 15th. Door prizes were given away around 10:00, featuring a mad toss of chairs when it was announced that coupons were attached to the bottoms of several chairs. Santa Claus made an appearance and each person had an opportunity for a photograph of themselves on Santa's lap. The D.J. began playing music shortly thereafter, and soon the dance floor was hoppin', nearly staying that way until the stroke of midnight. Congratulations are offered to Michelle McGehee and Grace Wilson-Laudun for their hard work of pulling this event together. Special thanks are offered to everyone who donated their time and effort to make this event special for the students of Mat-Su College.

Space "Junk", Part 3

by Dancing Feather X

This is the Captain speaking. Tighten your seat belt, please. We are ready for take-off. Oh? You are wondering what flight this is and why we are not moving; you are wondering why everything has gone dark. Because this is an unusual flight. You have just purchased your ticket for the trip of your life. I am not the pilot you were expecting; in fact, I'm an imposter and I've hijacked this ship. No, you can't get off. Why? Because...you don't want to. You are curious. Okay, so you're sitting there, paying attention as I observe; yeah, you guessed it, I'm going to make you use your imagination again. Again! Don't you recognize me by now? No, don't be edging towards the door, saying "not me," BECAUSE THERE IS NO DOOR. "No," you say. Yes, you, but I'll do the work. Remember the table? (see last two issues). It is flat, smooth, black; a two-dimensional, surreal dropway into your unconscious brain. Ah, now you remember... and you are beginning to recognize me. Back to the table. Quit shaking your head at me. Yes, you're sitting on the table, and yes, you are beginning to slide. The more frantically you scratch at the smooth surface of the table, the faster you slip, the gravity has caught you and there is no escaping. We are going to take a look at the inside of your brain from an inside perspective...

No, don't pull out now, you think you know what is going to happen...but you DON'T. Anyway you are being sucked down a vacuum towards a black hole. But you have forgotten something, you are weightless, bodiless, you are just a brain wave and brain waves are not affected by gravity (did I already tell you this? Oops). Okay, so now you know, you don't weigh a thing, so if you stop and think about it, the only reason you are being sucked down into that black hole is because you have let your imagination get the best of you. Okay, okay, it's not funny, but you've stopped being sucked down and now you're just sitting there, or rather floating, in mid space. Ah ah ah, no, you can't go up because, yeah, you forgot again, you are weightless. If you are weightless then you don't have arms to flap yourself up and anyway, there is not any air to flap at. Just face it, you're trapped until I show you the way back. Come on! Trust me.

If you use your imagination, you can turn your head to the right, there you see something, something very, very large. It is a planet, or so it appears, just sitting there, revolving slowly. Yes, you look to the left next, and there is another planet-thing, turning. Oh, great. You are stuck between two planet-things. Now what? You guess. You're inside your brain, right? You know something about brains, right? Yeah, they're the two hemispheres of your brain on either side of you. It is just now you realize how very, very small you are. There is a flash. Something momentarily blinds your sight. You follow the flash as it explodes from your left hemisphere to your right; it penetrates the floating ball and little lights, like lights coming on in a city after a power outage, sparkle all over this globe. Wow!

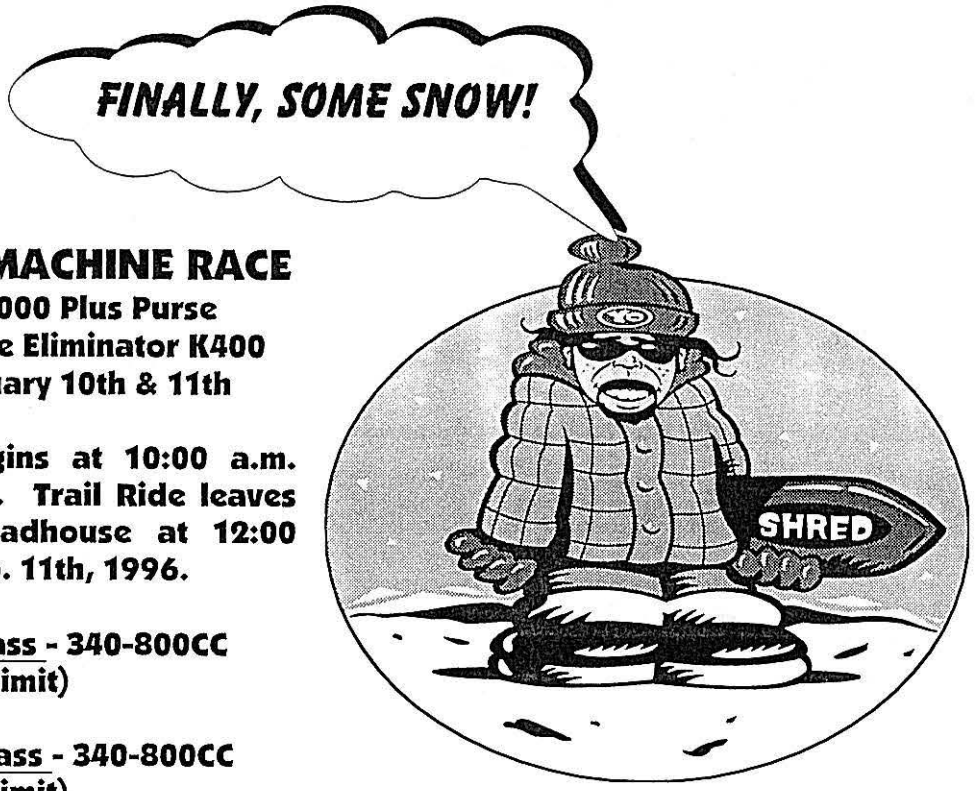
More of these flashes, or messages, shoot from brain hemisphere to brain hemisphere, lighting up different hidden cities beneath the glimmering soft skin of the planets. But now you know what is happening and you are getting bored. You are beginning to wonder why this trip was called Space "Junk." Okay, turn around. Okay, you can't so I'll help. Now you are turned around and you really get a shock; two wormholes are in swirling motion in front of you, and between them, yeah, you guessed it, is the table slideoff. Things are shooting through the wormholes and speeding like whistling missiles (only they can't whistle because there is no air to carry the sound). They sink like miniature bombs into either hemisphere arbitrarily and there is a response of outward exploding color, setting the hemispheres to blinking and sputtering back and forth between them as they share and confirm the messages. Then the two sides of the brain begin to spit faster, back and forth, back and forth, back and forth. In addition, more missiles are screaming (ah, forgot, they don't make any noise), through the wormholes. You are, by now, feeling quite dizzy I imagine, so it is now time to look down.

Yeah, it is the black hole down there; a black hole in space. Suddenly you begin to notice something very queer; some of the flashes back and forth between the brains are being sucked down into the black hole (remember, the black hole is your unconscious). But gravity is still in effect in space and as you know, conflicting gravities cause conflicting...thoughts. Some of the missiles are caught between the gravities, and when they finally settle down, many of them are caught in orbit around one or the other of the hemispheres, and yeah, you are noticing now that the hemispheres of your brain have rings around them similar to Saturn. But still other missiles (thoughts) become so confused between gravities that they end up floating in suspense between hemispheres, floating about you; yeah, you guessed it: space junk, or, brain junk. Now you see the greater difficulty for communication between the planets. Those clear flashes keep hitting the floating junk (if it was important it would not be floating here for they would have enough mass to be pulled in). As the wormholes (your eyes and ears and other senses) suck in more and more and more and more and more and more and more junk is left floating. It is a regular junk pile of ten-dimensional blocks to....*Clear Thoughts*. They are compiled leftovers that don't really matter...but they are there and stop the stuff that does matter. They have depth, breadth, width, movement; they contain what the eye saw, what the nose smelt, what the tongue tasted, what the finger felt, what the ear heard, and how it was all perceived. This is your brain. A beautiful thing, so perfect and operational, is littered with a junk pile of unnecessary, unhealthy, unproductive information.

Okay, it's time to go up. Now you're sitting again on the table between the wormholes, you are able to see through the holes AND you are able to control what comes through them - mostly. Now you want out, ah ah ah! But you can't. You've always been here, you just never looked behind you.

Continued on Page 12, Space Junk...

THE SPORTS PAGE



SNOWMACHINE RACE

$30,000 Plus Purse
Big Lake Eliminator K400
February 10th & 11th

Race begins at 10:00 a.m. each day. Trail Ride leaves Forks Roadhouse at 12:00 noon, Feb. 11th, 1996.

Money Class - 340-800CC
(35 team limit)

Trophy Class - 340-800CC
(15 team limit)

Trail Riders - Open - one way
(no limit)
(Trail Riders from Petersville to Big Lake.)

Entry Fees:
Money class: $700.00 per team
Trophy class: $400.00 per team
Trail Rider Class: $100.00 per machine

Signup Deadline: January 17th, 8:30 p.m. at Klondike Inn
Late Entry Fee: 50% Penalty

Sponsored by Fisher's Fuel, Tesoro, Unitech of Alaska, North Star Fuel, Big Lake Polaris Small Engine Repair, Aurora International, Inc., Bill's Cat House, Klondike Inn.

Aurora International, Inc. Presents The Klondike 300 Sleddog Race

Over thirty entrants have signed up for this Iditarod qualifier scheduled to begin January 20th at the Klondike Inn in Big Lake. The race course is from Big Lake - Goose Bay (Tug Bar) - Skwentna - Petersville (Forks Roadhouse) - Trapper Creek - Sheep Creek Lodge - Houston Lodge and back to the Klondike Inn in Big Lake. Because of lack of snow an alternative route has been established on lakes and rivers, however, the regular trail will be used if Mother Nature decides to cooperate.
For more information call 892-6261 or 892-6636

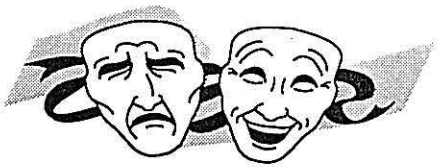
Willow Winter Carnival

The 35th Annual Willow Winter Carnival is scheduled for the 27th and 28th of January and the 3rd and 4th of February at the Willow Community Center. The carnival will be kicking off with a New York Steak dinner on Friday, January 26th at 7:00 p.m. The King and Queen of the carnival will be chosen and a drawing will be held for race positions. Cost of the dinner is $10.00.

The first Saturday will feature a ping pong tournament, a 3-mile open cross country ski race, a turkey shoot, a crazy hat contest, a pool tournament, a beautiful baby contest, a liar's contest, and the first heat of the sleddog races. Sunday, the 28th will be the first day of junior sleddog races, a cribbage tournament, cross saw contests, and the second heat of the open sleddog races.

Continued on page 7, Willow Winter Carnival

ART ABOUT



VISUAL ARTS

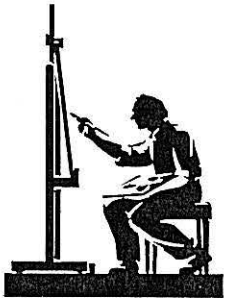
"DARKENED WATERS: PROFILE OF AN OIL SPILL" - 1989 EXXON VALDEZ DISASTER, JAN. 7 - FEB. 18, ANCHORAGE MUSEUM

"ALL ALASKA JURIED ART SHOW" - BIENNIAL EXHIBIT, JAN. 14 - MARCH 10, ANCHORAGE MUSEUM

BFA PAINTING EXIHIBITION - CELESTE CORSETTI, JAN. 18 - FEB. 1, UAA CAMPUS CENTER GALLERY

"MARILYN MILLER: THINGS YOU SAY...IN CLAY" - JAN. 18, AURORA FINE ART

SCHOLASTIC INVITATIONAL ART EXHIBITION - JAN. 26 - FEB. 28, UAA ARTS BUILDING GALLERY

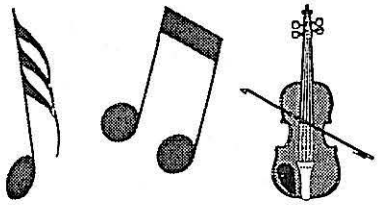


Coming Up
Of Student Interest:

"2-D Invitational" - Two-dimensional art works, Feb. 8-22, UAA Campus Center Gallery

"3-D Invitational" - Three-dimensional art works, Feb. 29 - March 21, UAA Campus Center Gallery

Ask Art Teachers for Details on Entries!!!



Music

African & Caribbean Music by Anchora Ge Tar Ibo' Jan. 13, 8:00 - 11:00 p.m. Vagabond Blues $4.00 cover

Greg West - Modern & Experimental Guitar - Vagabond Blues in Palmer, January 19th. 8:00 p.m. $3.00 cover

Bill & Jill - Jazz Quartet - Vagabond Blues, January 20th. 8:00 p.m.

"Pops!" - Anchorage Symphony Orchestra, Jan. 13, Alaska Center for the Performing Arts

Andre Watts - Anchorage Symphony Orchestra, Jan. 20, Alaska Center for the Performing Arts

"La Traviata" - Anchorage Opera, Jan. 26 - Feb. 3, Alaska Center for the Performing Arts

"Dark Night Series" - Anchorage Opera, Feb. 2, Alaska Center for the Performing Arts

Theater

"The Adventures of Baba Yaga" - UAA Theater, Jan. 19-28, UAA Arts Building

"A Day of Absence" - Black Dog Productions, February, Cyrano's Off Center Playhouse

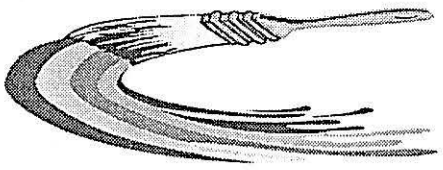
"The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie" - Valley Performing Arts, January 12-28.

Dance

Jazz Residency with Judy Austin - Jan. 8 - Feb. 15, Alaska Dance Theatre Studios

"STOMP!" - Anchorage Concert Association, Jan. 23-28, Alaska Center for the Performing Arts

Borealis Dancers - Palmer Moose Lodge, January 13



Campus Gallery

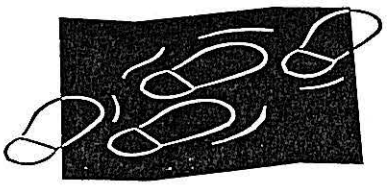
Mat-Su College's Campus Gallery is located in OLB 215. Dates and times of shows will be posted, keep your eyes open!

Dancin' Grandma Kicks up Heels in Valley

Georgie Donnally's Borealis Dancers will be performing at the Palmer Moose Club on January 13th. Georgie is an energetic grandmother of ten who has been dancing in the valley since 1983. Her group has performed at various locations, including regular shows at the Willow Winter Carnival, the Moose Lodge, the Pioneer Home, the Alaska State Fair and the Tanana Valley Fair in Fairbanks.

Borealis Dancers currently encompasses three groups of dancers; the Borealis Dancin' Bugs, grades K-2, the Borealis Dancin' Penguins, grades 3-5, and the adult group. The childrens' groups are taught through community schools at Finger Lake for a minimal fee. They are low-pressure, active classes which teach discipline, responsibility and teamwork. The adult group is open to anyone who is interested and newcomers are always welcome. Their shows are always high-energy entertainment consisting of a variety of dance styles from clogging to the Charleston.

The Borealis Dancers are currently scheduled to appear at the Anchorage Moose on January 27th, the Pioneer Home on February 9th, and again at the Anchorage Moose, with Sourdough Steve, on March 30th.



Teacher to Exhibit Art Work

Richard Benson, teacher of drawing, painting and art history classes at Mat-Su, will be exhibiting his paintings at the UAA Arts Building Gallery from March 25th to April 12th.

This semester will be Richard's last semester of teaching here at our campus. He will continue to teach full time at UAA. He will be greatly missed.

Willow Winter Carnival, *cont. from page 5...*

On the following Saturday, February 3rd, there will be a dart tournament, skijoring, a golf tournament, fun ski races, a pool tournament, snowshoe races, a stampede race, and a beard contest, followed by Bingo night at 7:00 p.m. Sunday will again feature kids sleddog races, ice bowling, snowmachine events, ladies three and five dog sled races, woodchopping contests, and a pie auction.

Throughout the event there will be an Arts and Crafts Show and Trade Fair, daily door prizes, mini raffles, and an ice-fishing contest. At 4:30 on February 4th, they will be holding an auction. First Prize is a Polaris Indy Lite GT, courtesy of Hatcher Pass Polaris. There are several other prizes including flight trips, river cruises, and fishing charters courtesy of area businesses.

A complete schedule of events and times will be posted in the Frontiersman and the Valley Sun the week prior to the event. This is fun that you don't want to miss!

Art Show Opening

The first Matanuska-Susitna college Art Show of 1996 will open Wednesday, January 18 in the MSC Library Atrium. The public is invited to meet the artist, Kimberly donofrio, at a reception from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., refreshments will be served.

The local artist will unveil a series of bold, dramatic mixed media paintings. She has described her work as a "spiritual act of creation...like the beginning of time." Using acrylics, watercolor, gesso and handmade papers, the abstract works evoke for her, "a sense of place - a place inside, like inward abstractions."

The public is invited to meet Donofrio. The show will hang January 15, through Valentine's Day and can be viewed between 8:30 a.m. until 10:00 p.m.

Rainbow Chaser

by Dancing Feather X

As a child, rainbows were so beautiful to me; I knew that if I could run fast enough, I would be able to find the end of the rainbow and touch its shimmering edge. A rainbow was a promise - it was good. But then I grew up. Rainbows are reflections only, and a trick of the eye; there is not pot of gold. So, I'm disillusioned. . . how come adults, who knew that rainbows were fantasies of the eye, let me believe? I was wounded. . . I discovered there is no "ultimate find", no perfect solution to all my ignorance. I had to decide what to do. Shall I close my eyes and continue to chase rainbows? Or shall I scoff at rainbow chasers and tell them their folly? I discovered during these last few months that neither of these answers is an answer. Finding the ultimate stash of wisdom, the perfect way, is not realistic, but ignoring it makes you cold and hard. And so I descided last month to be a rainbow chaser, with the full knowledge that I will never catch a rainbow, though I run ever so hard. It is the process that matters; the act of searching that will make me happy. I never expect to catch a rainbow, but that doesn't matter anymore because the promise of a rainbow is the promise of the everlasting adventure of discovering life. I will find more truth in the chase than if I ever actually sacked the gold. So....

I am a rainbow chaser,
Complete with map and net,
Some ask if I've ever caught one,
And I tell them wait, not yet.

I am a trapper of color,
A searcher for truth in spite,
That I know the laws of science
Are stacked against my right...

The discover that gold, so sweet and white,
That lies behind that hill,
Chasing a kite, Lost in the wind,
Catch it I never will.

I am a rainbow chaser,
Chaser of dreams; a racer.
I tell you there's no satisfaction,
As complete as the act of catchin'.

If ever I catch my rainbow,
A piece I'll share with you,
But come, I say,
Join the adventure;
The adventure is what I'm up to!

TIDBITS

*Petitions for classes not usually offered are posted in the JKB on the wall just past the vending machines. Current petitions are for Fall 1996. If you would like a class to be offered, fill out the upper portion of the green form and post on the wall for signatures. If you see one posted that you're interested in, sign it. Twelve signatures on a petition allows it to be offered.

*There is a student mail board in the hallway outside the IBM lab.

*There is a coin operated copy machine for student use located in the library.

*Student Government News is posted on the bulletin boards outside the cafeteria, and on the electronic marquee outside the office.

*Calendars are posted outside the Monitor Office with meeting dates, deadline dates, and issue dates.

*Vending machines are located in the Kerttula Building and Snodgrass Hall.

*There is a scanner available in the VAX lab.

*Typewriters are available at Snodgrass Hall.

*Copies of all student evaluations of teacher performances are kept in the library. These evaluations are filled out on a semester basis, and are available for review by students.

*The bookstore has a table in the hall outside the bookstore with information on current prices of required texts.

*Keep your eye on the chalkboard next to the vending machines in the JKB, Security uses this board to notify people of lights left on during the winter months.

Brain Teasers

To avoid the dunce cap, you'll have to identify correctly as true or false at least half the following statements. The answers may seem obvious - but watch out! Deciding whether a statement is correct isn't as simple as it looks.

1. Frankenstein was the name of a fictional monster created by a mad doctor.
2. The 21st century will start on January 1st in the year 2000.
3. Wherever you may be, you need only locate the North Star to find your direction.
4. Cream is heavier than milk.
5. In 1927 Charles A. Lindbergh made the first nonstop flight across the Atlantic Ocian.
6. The liner Lusitania was torpedoed in 1915 on her maiden voyage.
7. The kilt originated in Scotland.
8. The porcupine shoots its quills to flight off enemies.
9. Diamonds will not burn.
10. A pound of feathers and a pound of gold are the same weight.

*answers on page 12

THERE IS SOMETHING I DON'T KNOW
THAT I AM SUPPOSED TO KNOW,
I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS I DON'T KNOW,
AND YET AM SUPPOSED TO KNOW,
AND I FEEL I LOOK STUPID
IF I SEEM BOTH TO KNOW IT
AND NOT KNOW WHAT IT IS
I DON'T KNOW...
THEREFORE, I PRETEND I KNOW IT.
THIS IS NERVE-WRACKING...
SINCE I DON'T KNOW WHAT I MUST PRETEND TO KNOW
THEREFORE I PRETEND TO KNOW EVERYTHING!!!

by R.D. Laing "Knots"
originally published in the MSCC Monitor
November 1982

Dear Julie,

I have a very good friend who has been in a long-term relationship (4 years) with a real jerk. The reason I call him a jerk is that he always tells her what to do, what to wear, and I've recently seen him running around with another woman "friend". She insists that she is in love with this man, but I think she is just trying to convince herself because she can't imagine life without him. How can I convince her that this is not the best situation for her, and that there is life after jerkdom?

Wants to help

Dear Wants,

First you must realize that your efforts to help your friend may very well hurt or end your friendship. If it matters that much to you then you need to sit her down and tell her of your concerns and what you have seen. Have a well thought out argument with answers prepared for the questions you think she might ask and a little prayer will not hurt. As for life after Jerkdom, have a few interesting fellows in mind and point out their merits in response to her boyfriend's faults. Don't be too pushy and good luck.

Julie

To Write to "Dear Julie", drop your letter off at the Student Government/Monitor office, or leave in the Monitor box in the cafeteria. "Julie" is a Human Services Major studying paraprofessional counseling.

IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Great News for Valley Parents!

by Patte Sawyer, Board Member of Community Recreation and Service Centers, Inc.

A board of directors is now being formed to plan for the Valley's first Recreation Center for our children. Community Recreation and Service Centers, Inc. is a tax exempt, public supported, non-profit agency organized in Alaska and located in the Mat-Su Valley. The purpose of community recreation is to provide an effective, non-profit recreation center for every age person in every Mat-Su valley community, at a price everyone will be able to afford! Programs that foster character building, community participation, crime prevention, and low cost social, educational, and recreational activities for every age group, toddlers to senior adults, will be provided.

The recreation center is in the public relations/fundraising stage right now. We are trying to inform borough residents so that they can give input and help make this much needed resource come to fruition for our children, as well as, ourselves. If you would like a copy of the January newsletter, call Bob Braley, Sr. at 746-2648, and feel free to attend our Board meetings at Century Plaza, Thursday nights at 7:00 p.m. You and I are the leaders, the healers, and the teachers we have been looking for. There is so much good we can do for children and community with just a little effort.

Community Schools Registration

Now is the time to register for the new classes offered by the Mat-Su Community Schools. The Spring Program is out and has been distributed at various locations in the Valley. Classes are offered at locations in Palmer, Wasilla, Big Lake, Sutton, Willow, Talkeetna and Trapper Creek for children and adults. A variety of classes are offered in areas such as computers, art, dance, cake decorating, cooking, car maintenance, sports, and many, many more. Cost of these classes are minimal.

Contact Directory

Palmer Middle School
Rose Smith 745-7750
Wasilla Middle School
Karen Crowley 376-7813
Big Lake/Houston
Rosie Thompson 892-6044
Sutton School
Tammy Provo 745-6150
Willow School
Darleen Sullivan 495-6236
Su Valley High School
Merilee Watts 733-2241
Trapper Creek
Randi Wing 733-2298
Talkeetna
Kathleeen Fleming 733-2252
Supervisor
Gleo Huyck 746-9275
Program Facilitator
Lucille DePriest 376-7813
Administrative Secretary
Patti Faulkner 746-9275

MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR COMMUNITY... VOLUNTEER

*Local ownership of juvenile crime problem

*Swift, appropriate, and meaningful consequences for behavior

*Offender accountability to victim and community

*Early intervention

Contact: **Juvenile Diversion Panel**
268 E. Fireweed, #5
Palmer, Alaska 99645
745-4887

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

General Membership Meeting

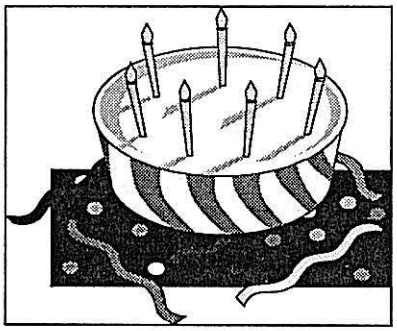
Habitat for Humanity, Mat-Su will hold a general membership meeting on Monday, January 15th at 7:00 p.m. at the Trinity Lutheran Church off the Palmer-Wasilla Highway. This meeting is for ALL who are interested in supporting this worthwhile endeavor to provide housing for those that may otherwise be unable to afford it; board members, committee members, volunteers, and prospective volunteers and sponsors are encouraged to attend.

As a special note: the application process for participation in having a home built by Habitat for Humanity, Mat-Su has come to a close. No other applications will be accepted at this time.

NOTICES

Happy Birthday to:

Linda Duarte
Barbara Mishler
Joseph Emmons
Gretchen Germer
Jayne Tolman



Financial Aid

State Student Loan checks are in! Call Dee @ 745-9762 to see if yours is in. Grant checks will not be distributed until the first day of classes.

THE ELECTRONICS DEPARTMENT

IS HAVING A NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION ON MONDAY JANUARY 16TH AT 5:00 P.M. OR 7:00 P.M.

LOCKERS

ARE AVAILABLE AT THE END OF THE JKB AND THE OLB. BRING YOUR OWN LOCK. PLEASE CLEAN OUT YOUR LOCKER IF YOU ARE NO LONGER USING IT SO SOMEONE ELSE MAY.

Computer Lab

There is a lab fee of $30.00 per semester. This fee allows you to use the VAX lab, the Mac lab, or the IBM lab. E-Mail accounts are available at no extra charge to students and can be accessed from your home computer. For continuing students, you will need to update your accounts - TWO passwords are now necessary to access accounts. See lab aids or Carl the Computer Guy for more information.

Eye-Opening Poverty Statistics

(NSNS)

Below are just a few of the little-known facts about homelessness and the distribution of wealth in the United States:

*A recent report published by the Missouri Association for Social Welfare found that 26 million individuals - 14 percent of the population - considered themselves homeless at some point in their lives.

*The median full-time worker now earns $475 per week, one percent less than a year ago and 4.6 percent less than in 1979.

*In 1993, the average income of the top 20 percent of American families was $107,471, or eleven times more than $9,735 - the average income for the bottom 20 percent.

(Courtesy of the National Coalition for the Homeless.)

Positions Open

WE NEED YOU!

The new semester is starting, check your schedules to see if you could donate a little time to support your student newspaper!

MSC Monitor

Student Newspaper of Mat-Su College

Art Reporter: Report on all art related activities at Mat-Su and UAA, as well as upcoming related outside events; reviews and criticism, cover art club meetings. Must be involved in the arts, any medium, with knowledge of basic principles of method and design.

Student Government Reporter: Report on all aspects of student government: meetings, committees, etc. Must attend meetings regularly, cannot hold a position.

News Reporters: Research and investigate news around campus and the valley. A good ear and a quest for information a must.

Interviewers: Interview teachers, faculty, and students. Write biographies. Take polls.

Computer/Internet Reporter: Report on subjects of interest in the world of computers, what's happening on the Internet, etc.

Guest Columnists: Anyone wishing to report on any of the above subjects, or any other subject of interest, may do so as a guest columnist.

Submit applications or articles to Student Gov't/Monitor office, leave in our box, or write via VAX, PSAJM.

Wanna see something different in the paper? Got ideas? See Amy! Be a part of *your* student paper!

ADS

The MSC Monitor offers **FREE** ads to students, faculty, adjunct, and staff of Mat-Su College. Drop your ad at the office or place in box outside the office. The MSC Monitor is published on a monthly basis.

Bookstore Hours

January 8th - January 12th
Mon - Fri 9:00 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.

January 15th - January 27th
Mon - Fri 9:00 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Saturday 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

January 29th - May 3rd
Mon - Thurs 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
3:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Friday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Closed March 4th thru March 9th for Spring Break.
*Hours may vary slightly according to student worker schedule.

Library

The Alvin S. Okeson Library serves the students, staff and faculty of MSC, and is also open to the public. Interlibrary loans are available free of charge to students.
Hours:
Jan 3 - Jan 15 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Jan 16 - May 6
Mon - Thurs 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Friday 8:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

EXTRA, EXTRA

Typing Lab

There are two IBM Correcting Selectrics available for student use in Snodgrass Hall at no cost. Just bring paper and supplies.

Typing Lab Schedule for Spring '96

Mondays	9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Tuesdays	1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Wednesdays	9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Thursdays	1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Fridays	CLOSED

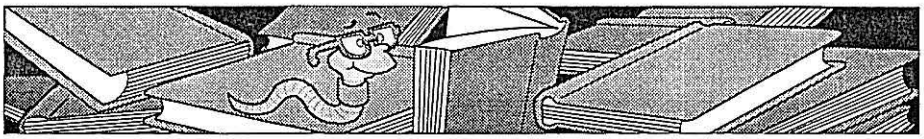
Any questions contact Gretchen at Snodgrass Hall, 745-9754

Admissions & Records

Registration is continuing for all students. Office hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday.

STUDENT LOANS: Extended Hours & Easy 800 Number

The Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education, Division of Student Financial Aid has expanded their customer service hours. You can contact the Juneau offices between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday. They are featuring a new 1-800 service. If you have questions about loans call 1-800-441-2967 or 1-800-441-2962.



Scholarships Available

Phi Theta Kappa Trustee Scholarships for Academic Excellence for Graduates of Two-Year Colleges. Hobart and William Smith colleges invite applications for $2,500 - $10,000. Scholarships are available annually, starting in the Fall Term, and are renewable each year. Financial need is not a consideration for these awards. To qualify students must:
*Apply for transfer admission to either Hobart or William Smith by April 1, 1996.
*Have completed (or be near completion of) a two-year degree at either a community college or junior college by June, 1996.
*Submit the supplemental application form available from the Offices of Admissions.
*Possess a cumulative college G.P.A. of 3.5 or above for at least three semesters.
*Interview no later than April 1, 1996.
*All candidates will be notified before the end of May.

CONTACT:
Kathy Regan, Coordinator of Transfer Admissions
Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Geneva, New York 14456-3379
(800) 245-0100

Delta Kappa Gamma is offering a scholarship in the amount of $600.00 to any woman who is a returning student working toward a degree in Education at the University of Alaska/Mat-Su College. Applications must be completed by Feb. 15, 1995.

See Barb Carney, Financial Aid Wizard, for more information.

Space Junk, continued from page 4

You see, you are the programmer, the controller, you are, yeah, you guessed it - you are you, and you ARE STUCK. I have just given you a new perspective, and these flashes and missiles you have allowed to enter your brain HAVE CHANGED YOU FOREVER. Yep, you'll never forget the journey you just went on and it will bug you forever because you CANNOT GET RID OF IT. Why? Because I said "cannot," and with the word I have indelibly made several copies of the prototype of this perspective scream at ten times the speed of light into ten directions. I have made them able to reproduce and imprint and they will reproduce and imprint in so many stations in your brain that you will never be able to eradicate what I've said! You will remember, when one of your clear thoughts hits another piece of junk, what I've said, and on top of it, you will remember where you are sitting, standing, or lying at this moment, and you will imprint onto it your own impressions, which, of course, is the tenth dimension and the most important.

What have I said? Why did I do this? Do I just like to be cruel and mess up people's brains? I did this to make you think about how you think and I placed a monitor in your brain to notify you when you are experiencing distraction, and I have given you a model to identify it. I have not changed you, though, really - you allowed me to change you. You allowed me into your head and I'm stuck there. My name is the Captain and you have taken a ride in my craft on a trip called Space Junk. Are you mad! Hey, it is your brain; you could have stopped reading this any time you wished. You can, perhaps, hunt down all I've said, corner it, and lug it to your black hole and let it be sucked into your unconscious, but, my dear, it will take such an effort that you will create new memories of how you tried to erase what I've said, and when you ask yourself what you erased, he he he, up will come the memory after all. Just face it, I am not in control of your mind, you are. But you let me in. Now face it, I'm stuck there, inside; you have other things stuck inside there too - junk. All you had to do was turn the page and you would have never known; all you had to do was stop after the first paragraph and I would not be permanently set! All you had to do was stop two paragraphs up, before I set "erasable" into your head, and I wouldn't be here.

I think this floating hulk of a monitor is good for you. I think some other stuff drifting by me is not so good for your future. Add to your New Year's resolution a check on mind junk. I like junk food, it is highly addictive and it tastes good, but the gut gets grumpy and it adds extra fat, instead of muscle. Don't let your brain be made of fat; but smooth, working muscle. This is the part that is up to you.

Answers to Brain Teasers

from Page 8

True or False: These statements are NOT TRUE. They are all false because:

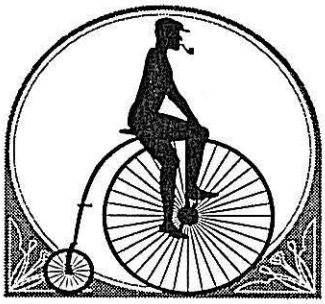
1. Frankenstein was the name of the medical student who created the monster in Mary Shelley's novel of 1818. The thing he made had no name.
2. The 21st century starts on January 1st in the year 2001. It takes a full 100 years to make a century, so 1 A.D. through 100 would be the 1st century; 101 through 200, the 2nd century, etc.
3. The North Star can guide you only so long as you're in the top half of the world. It can't be seen in the Southern Hemisphere.
4. Cream is lighter than milk...Why else would it rise to the top of the bottle?
5. Others had flown nonstop across the Atlantic before Lindbergh. He was the first to fly solo.
6. The Lusitania made her first voyage in 1907. She had completed many trips before being torpedoed off the coast of Ireland.
7. The kilt was a form of male attire in ancient times and probably originated in the Mediterranean area. Both Roman Assyrian soldiers wore them.
8. Porcupine quills fall out easily but only on contact. They can't be shot.
9. Being carbon, diamonds will burn in temperatures exceeding 1400 degrees Fahrenheit. This is hotter than most household blazes.
10. Technically, a pound of feathers is heavier than a pound of gold. Feathers are weighed by the avoir dupois system, in which a pound equals 7000 grains; gold by the troy system, in which a pound has 5760 grains.

**Originally published in the MSCC Monitor, November 1982, page 13 & 17.*

LIMMERICK

THERE WAS A YOUNG LADY OF PALMER
WHO HAD HER A SUITOR TO CHARM HER,
BUT HE MENDED HIS WAYS
WENT TO MSCC FOR A DAY
AND NOW HE'S SO SMART IT ALARMS HER!

BY MAUREEN CURRAN, REPRINTED FROM THE MSCC NEWSLETTER, DECEMBER 1980



You have traversed a major milestone in your life, the transitioning into a college environment. We hope that this step forward will add fuel to a burning desire for knowledge, an increased need for peer association and a continuous self-analysis to determine lifelong learning needs.

-Alvin S. Okeson, reprinted from the Mat-Su Monitor, February 1980

The Information Highway; or Roadblock?

by Amy Menerey

Being an amateur "surfer", I spend a very limited amount of time on the Net. Log in, check my E-Mail, log off. However, I have recently seen a lot of hoopla concerning Internet "addiction", and, knowing some computer enthusiasts (they're not nerds anymore you know), decided to investigate this new affliction.

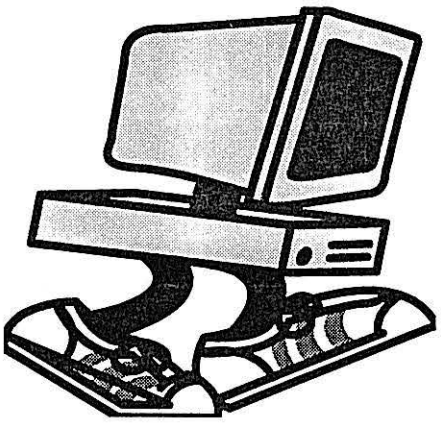
It seems that some people, especially students, are going online and can't get off. Even psychologists are getting into the act, concerned that Net surfers are becoming anti-social introverts.

Anti-social introverts! Well, the students that I talked to concerning their Net use were far from anti-social or introverts. They all expressed a great deal of enthusiasm in sharing their experience and exploration of the Internet. In fact, many found that the greatest advantage of being online is the ability to be anyone you want to be. You see, on the Net you can express yourself in a nonconfrontational atmosphere. "If you're shy and get on the Internet you can be anything you want", stated one student. You can develop a new personality, or expound on characteristics of yourself that you're too shy to express otherwise. True, the psychologists may view this as an interference of normal face-to-face contact, however, it could also be seen as a healthy way to build up self-esteem and express yourself in a safe environment until you feel comfortable expressing yourself offline.

The advantages to surfing the Net appear to be endless. It was described to me as "like driving in a new city - lost, and finding fascinating new streets and cul-de-sacs by accident." Another "addicted" surfer described the infinite possiblities for research in every aspect of a person's life from gardening to shopping.

Denise, a 34-year-old mother of two, uses the Internet for personal research as well as school. She and her husband are both Gulf War vets and she subscribes to the Gulf War mailing list, where she can obtain all of the latest news and information about the war, its effects, and Congress. Basically anything written about it comes across her screen where she downloads it onto disk for further reference. She also uses the Net to obtain information for her kids, and, subscribing to a Humor mailing list keeps her in good spirits.

The downside, of course, is the number of hours a person can easily spend online. It seems that, although no one I interviewed feels a compelling "need" to go online, once there they all find difficulty removing themselves.



Twenty-year-old David has surrendered to the idea that once online, he will be there awhile. "I put on some comfy clothes and settle in," he says. His computer is located in his bedroom, surrounded by soda cans, wrappers, paper, and other signs of someone who lives with their hands on the keyboard. Although he uses the Net for research and the vast amount of knowledge stored there, David is a game-nut. He spends 6-8 hours a day simply playing interactive games with people around the country. Does this interfere with his life? "That's beside the point," he explains, "it's what I enjoy."

Recently I learned that there is also a new "Cyberbar" (according to the locals), located in Palmer. They have only one computer, but it is online and it's free to use. You simply go in, sign a release saying you won't do anything awful to it, and you can explore the Net any time between 4:00 p.m. and midnight. Located in the Gold Bar, it provides an opportunity for people who don't have a home computer.

I've taken a couple of quick trips on the Net, but always managed to get lost; but then, I get lost on the Infotrac in the library. Guess when I finally get my home computer and get "online", I'll get to explore some new streets of my own.

The Death of a Friend

The college was saddened to learn this week of the death of a very dear friend and supporter of MSCC, Someone Else. Else has been with us for many years. Someone did far more than a normal students' share of the work and support needed in student representation.

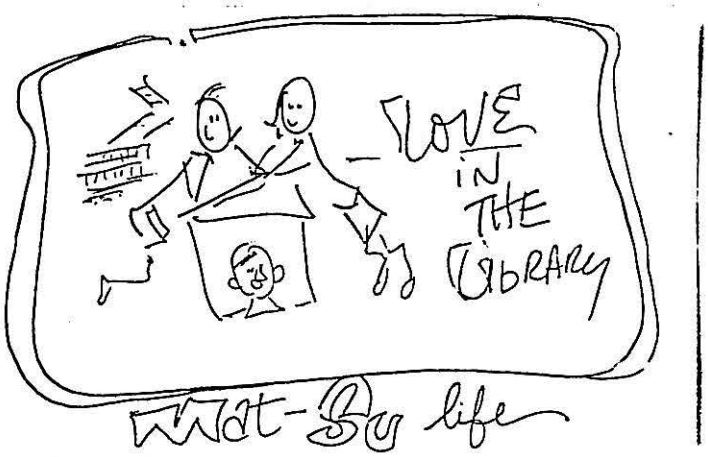
Whenever there was a job to do, a meeting to attend or a visit within the community and even just a necessary letter to be written, one name was on everyone's list. Let Someone Else do it. Someone Else always seemed to be where the need was greatest. It was common knowledge that Someone Else was the greatest supporter of the school; always giving more time, more effort, more logical reasoning to the gripers and complainers, more positive reinforcement to the teachers and staff. Whenever there was a need, everyone just assumed that Someone Else would take care of it.

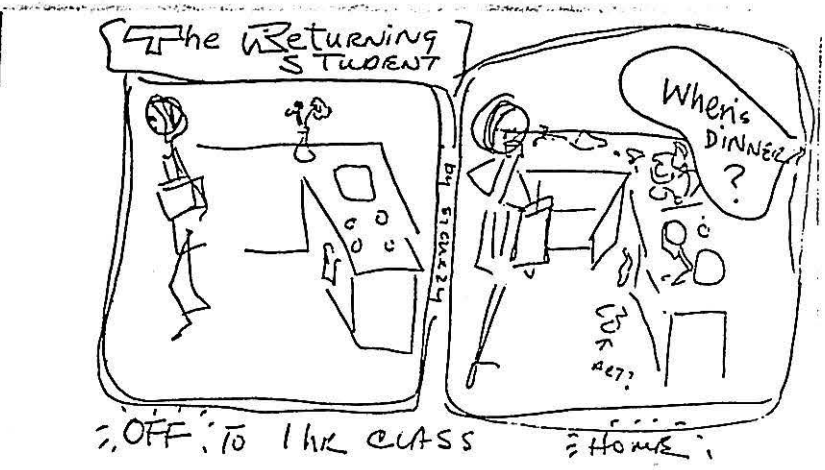
Someone Else was a wonderful, delightful person - often appearing super-human, but a person can only do so much. If the truth were known - each of us contributed a little toward Someone's death - we expected too much of Someone Else.

Now that Someone Else is gone, we wonder what we will do. Else left a wonderful example for each of us to follow, but who is going to follow as Someone Else did? When you are asked to help, please remember, we can't depend on Someone Else anymore.

by Woody Hayes, Reprinted from the MSCC Monitor, Christmas, 1981

Life at Mat-Su by Sue Reed





Ideas, questions, comments? Do you have something to say? We'd like to print it. Do you have a particular interest, job, or hobby you'd like to share? We'd like to hear about it. See Amy at the Monitor office, or drop submissions in the blue Monitor box outside the office. We'd like to hear from you!